

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated January 5, 2004. Claims 1-19 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-19 have been rejected. Claims 1, 11, 15, and 19 have been amended to further define the scope and novelty of the present invention. Claims 21-28 have been added. Support for the amendments to the claims and support for the new claims is found in Figure 10 and on page 6, lines 1-5. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been presented. Accordingly, claims 1-19 and 21-28 are pending in the application. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance, and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Present invention

A display device comprising a display screen and a pivoting system coupled to the display device is disclosed. The pivoting system allows for rotation of the display screen from portrait to landscape; and for flipping the display from front to back, and for the display device to be folded into a compact form. The design in accordance with the present invention offers a range of freedom of movement not available with previous conventional designs. In a preferred embodiment, the display device 100 can be lifted approximately 130 mm from a flat folded position. A user can rotate the display 90° from portrait through landscape orientations. A user can also flip the display 180° from front to back, which will allow users on opposite sides of a desk to view the same image without turning the display around. All of these features may be used in combination, allowing the user to take advantage of multiple positioning options. (Summary.)

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner has stated:

4. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Braun et al. (EP0887724) in view of Chen et al. (5812368) and Bergeron Gull et al. (6189842).

Regarding to claims 1-18, Braun discloses a display device comprising: a flat display screen; a base portion; a support arm coupled to the base portion and a display screen frame for supporting the display screen; and a pivoting assembly coupled to the display screen for rotating the display screen from a first to second orientation (see drawings). Braun further suggests the display screen can be rotated 180 degrees (col. 2, lines 4-8).

Braun fails to disclose folding the display device into a compact form.

Chen, in the same display field, discloses a display device comprising two parallel support arms (21, Fig. 2) for supporting a display screen; a pin for rotating the display screen; a pivoting assembly coupled to the display screen for folding the display device to a compact form (see figs. 5A-5C and 7B); and the support arms creates a "Z" shape as the display device is moved to and from a stored position (see figs. 5A-5C and 7B).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Chen's display device into Braun's invention because it allows Braun's display device to be folded into a compact form so that the display device occupied less space.

Braun also fails to disclose rotating the display screen from portrait to landscape orientation.

Bergeron, in the same display field, discloses rotating the display screen from portrait to landscape orientation to adjust the width and the height of the display screen (see abstract and column 1, lines 32-38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Bergeron's rotation means in Braun's invention because of the same purpose as Bergeron uses in his invention, which is to adjust the width and the height of the display screen. ...

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections. For the Examiner's convenience, amended independent claim 1 is reproduced in its entirety herein below.

Claim 1

1. (amended) A display device comprising:
a display screen;
a pivoting assembly coupled to the display screen, the pivoting assembly allowing for rotation of the display screen from portrait to landscape orientation, for flipping the display from front to back, and for the display device to be folded into a compact form; and
a compression device coupled to the display device for facilitating changing a configuration of the display device.

Applicants submit that Braun, Chen, and Bergeron singly or in combination do not disclose the present invention, including “a compression device coupled to the display device for facilitating changing a configuration of the display device,” as recited amended independent claim 1. Braun describes a flat panel display device that can be flipped from one position to another position and describes a pivot axis that “passes through or near the center of mass of the display so that [the] display is symmetric about the axis” (column 3, lines 31-47). However, nowhere does Braun describe or suggest the compression device as recited in the present invention. Chen describes a monitor that can be “freely adjusted to almost any desired inclined position” (column 4, lines 45-50). However, like Braun, nowhere does Chen describe or suggest the compression device as recited in the present invention. Finally, Bergeron does not describe or suggest the compression device of the present invention. Bergeron describes a spring 270 (Figure 2b) but the spring is not utilized for facilitating movement of a display but is instead utilized for “preventing undesired tilting of the display” (column 4, lines 46-51). In accordance with the present invention, the compression device facilitates changing the configuration of the display device in a quick and easy manner. The compression device can be implemented, for example, with a gas-charge piston or a compression spring to assist in changing the configuration of the display device. The cited references do not provide this benefit as does the present invention.

Therefore, Braun in view of Chen and Bergeron does not teach or suggest the cooperation of elements as recited in amended independent claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over the cited references.

Independent claims 11, 15, and 19

Similar to amended independent claims 11, 15, and 19 recite a “compression device coupled to the display device for facilitating changing a configuration of the display device.” As described above, with respect to amended independent claim 1, the cited references do not teach or suggest this feature. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to amended independent claim 1 apply with equal force to claims 11, 15, and 19. Therefore, claims 11, 15, and 19 are allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

New claims 21-28

New dependent claims 21-28 have been added to further define the scope and novelty of the present invention. Specifically, claims 21, 23, 25, and 27 recite that the compression device is a “gas-charge piston” and claims 22, 24, 26, and 28 recite that the compression device is a “compression spring.” Claims 21-28 depend from amended independent claims 1, 11, 15, and 19, respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to amended independent claims 1, 11, 15, and 19 apply with equal force to claims 21-28, which are thus allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 11, 15, and 19.

Remaining dependent claims

Dependent claims 2-10, 12-14, and 16-18 depend from amended independent claims 1, 11, and 15, respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to amended independent claims 1, 11, and 15 apply with equal force to claims 2-10, 12-14, and 16-18, which are thus allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 11, and 15.

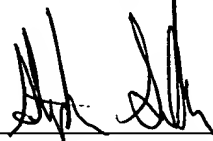
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-19 and 21-28 are patentable over the cited references. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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